

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 SS-15 CPR-02 A-01 MED-03 INR-10

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TO AMEMBASSY LIMA

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EO11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, PINT, AMED, PE

REF: LIMA 2067

SUBJECT: REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE FOR PRESIDENT VELASCO

1. FOREIGN MINISTER ON APRIL 3 DISCUSSED REHABILITATIVE ASSISTANCE FOR PRESIDENT VELASCO WITH WALTER REED ORTHOPEDIC SPECIALISTS. FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN HAVING A U. S. DOCTOR GO TO PERU TO FIT PROSTHESIS ON THE PRESIDENT.
2. SPECIALISTS TOLD FOREIGN MINISTER IT VERY DIFFICULT TO FIT PROSTHESIS BY SENDING U. S. DOCTOR TO PERU, SINCE U. S. DOCTORS UNFAMILIAR WITH PROSTHESES MANUFACTURED THERE. IN THEIR VIEW, MOST SATISFACTORY METHOD IS FOR PATIENT TO ENTER HOSPITAL SPECIALIZING IN TREATING AMPUTEES WHERE A TEAM COMPOSED OF A PHYSICIAN, A FITTER AND A PHYSICAL THERAPIST CAN WORK WITH HIM DAILY. THEIR EXPERIENCE AT WALTER REED SUGGESTED THAT MOST PATIENTS ARE ABLE TO MANAGE THE PROSTHESIS EASILY AFTER ABOUT 90 DAYS.
3. FONMIN SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS WITH PRESIDENT VELASCO BUT ADDED THAT NINETY DAY ABSENCE FROM

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PERU NOT FEASIBLE FOR VELASCO.

4. SUBSEQUENTLY, AMBASSADOR BERCKEMEYER AND MINISTER COUNSELOR ROCA TELEPHONED DESK TO SAY FONMIN VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN HAVING A U. S. DOCTOR AND A FITTER GO TO PERU. HE SAID PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD PAY THEIR TRANSPORTATION AND TAKE CARE OF THEIR EXPENSES IN PERU. FONMIN CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS HIS OWN INITIATIVE AND THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO DISCUSS IT WITH THE PRESIDENT. IF THE PRESIDENT AGREES, A FORMAL REQUEST FOR THE DOCTOR AND FITTER WILL BE MADE THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

5. WALTER REED SPECIALISTS BELIEVE THAT, IF THE PERUVIANS MAKE SUCH A REQUEST, THE USG SHOULD SEND A U. S. DOCTOR TO PERU ON AN EXPLORATORY BASIS. HE WOULD EXAMINE THE PATIENT AND ALSO BECOME INFORMED ON PROSTHESES AVAILABLE IN PERU. BASED ON HIS RECOMMENDATION, USG COULD DECIDE WHETHER PERUVIAN REQUEST FEASIBLE, NOT ONLY IN TERMS OF PATIENT'S HEALTH BUT ALSO OF HIS FUTURE SATISFACTION. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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